

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey, on February 13, 2015 at 8:00 AM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)
Sen. Elsie Arntzen, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dee Brown (R)
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 254, 2/5/2015; SB 280, 2/5/2015; SB 281, 2/5/2015

00:08:10 Recess
00:58:34 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 254

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:00:00 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 254. Generally revise laws related to Montana State Fund.

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

01:07:29 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund (MSF)

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a03\)](#)

01:16:21 Barry "Spook" Stang, Motor Carriers of Montana; also speaking for John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a04\)](#)

01:25:29 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce

01:25:57 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business

01:26:31 Bob Biskupiak, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana

01:28:12 John Hansen, Montana Logging Association

01:28:56 Bob Worthington, Montana Self Insurers Association

01:31:26 Jack Walsh, Montana Building Industry Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:32:05 Sen. Facey

01:34:10 Ms. Butler, MSF

01:34:58 Sen. Facey

01:35:19 Sen. Keane

01:36:03 Sen. Vuckovich

01:36:42 Ms. Butler

01:37:19 Sen. Stewart-Peregoy

01:37:34 Ms. Butler

01:37:48 Sen. Arntzen

01:37:54 Chairman Buttrey

01:39:28 Ms. Butler

01:40:09 Chairman Buttrey

01:41:00 Jesse Laslovich, Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance,
Montana State Auditor (CSI)

01:41:04 Sen. Facey

01:41:07 Ms. Butler

01:42:21 Chairman Buttrey
01:42:25 Sen. Facey
01:42:56 Ms. Butler
01:43:47 Chairman Buttrey
01:43:51 Ms. Butler
01:44:01 Sen. Whitford
01:45:15 Sen. Keane
01:46:19 Sen. Whitford
01:46:49 Mr. Laslovich, CSI
01:46:55 Chairman Buttrey
01:47:15 Sen. Keane
01:47:25 Sen. Facey
01:47:35 Chairman Buttrey

Closing by Sponsor:

01:48:01 Sen. Keane
01:49:49 Chairman Buttrey
01:49:52 Recess
01:52:00 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 280

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:52:07 Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 280.
Generally revise loan agreement statute of frauds laws.

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a05\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:55:48 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana Bankers Association
01:59:13 Kenneth Lay, attorney
02:03:24 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a06\)](#)

02:08:46 Dick Anderson, contractor and businessman
02:13:26 Andy O'Neill, President, Valley Bank of Helena (VB)
02:15:22 Jim Brown, Montana Independent Bankers Association
02:21:06 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce
02:21:30 Jack Walsh, Montana Building Industry Association

Opponents' Testimony:

02:22:22 Kim Wilson, attorney, Morrison, Sherwood, Wilson, Deola; representing himself

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a07\)](#)

02:28:26 Pat Freeland, homeowner

02:31:56 Rick Freeland, homeowner
02:34:00 Robert Farris-Olsen, attorney
02:36:12 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus33a08)

Informational Testimony:

02:42:37 Elaine Dahl, attorney, Montana Legal Services Association
[EXHIBIT](#)(bus33a09)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:46:04 Sen. Whitford
02:47:30 Al Smith, MTLA
02:48:08 Sen. Facey
02:49:25 Mr. O'Neill, VB
02:49:50 Sen. Facey
02:50:17 Mr. Wilson, self
02:52:00 Sen. Facey
02:52:03 Jon Bennion, Department of Justice (DOJ) (redirect)
02:52:51 Chairman Buttrey
02:52:56 Chuck Munson, Department of Justice (DOJ)
02:53:45 Chairman Buttrey
02:54:39 Mr. Wilson
02:54:47 Sen. Whitford
02:55:39 Mr. Turkiewicz (MBA) (redirect)
02:55:49 Sen. Whitford
02:58:38 Mr. O'Neill
02:59:09 Sen. Stewart-Peregoy
03:01:35 Mr. Smith
03:02:32 Chairman Buttrey
03:04:05 Mr. Lay, attorney
03:04:19 Sen. Facey
03:04:57 Mr. Lay

Closing by Sponsor:

03:05:15 Sen. Moore
03:06:47 Chairman Buttrey

HEARING ON SB 281

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:06:58 Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 281.
Generally revise consumer protection damage laws.

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus33a10)

Proponents' Testimony:

03:10:02 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana Bankers Association
03:13:29 Kenneth Lay, attorney
03:16:59 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association
03:17:50 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce
03:18:08 Jack Walsh, Montana Building Industry Association

Opponents' Testimony:

03:18:42 Kim Wilson, attorney, Morrison, Sherwood, Wilson, Deola; representing himself
03:21:57 Jon Bennion, Department of Justice (DOJ)
03:26:13 Robert Farris-Olsen, attorney; representing himself
03:27:57 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a11\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

03:30:36 Elaine Dahl, attorney, Montana Legal Services Association

[EXHIBIT\(bus33a12\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:31:20 Sen. Connell
03:33:33 Mr. Bennion, DOJ
03:33:38 Sen. Arntzen
03:33:56 Mr. Bennion
03:34:39 Sen. Vuckovich
03:36:36 Mr. Lay, attorney
03:37:40 Sen. Whitford
03:38:51 Mr. Smith, MTLA
03:40:27 Sen. Facey
03:40:50 Mr. Lay
03:41:35 Sen. Facey
03:41:38 Mr. Wilson, self
03:42:27 Sen. Arntzen
03:44:43 Mr. Wilson (redirect)
03:45:05 Sen. Arntzen
03:45:28 Mr. Lay

Closing by Sponsor:

03:46:27 Sen. Moore
03:48:43 Chairman Buttrey

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:53 AM

Linda Keim, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus33aad.pdf](#))